

PUBLIC HEALTH



Department of Health and Human Services

Bulletin

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DATA FOR JANUARY 2002

The mission of the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services is to improve the quality of life of the residents of Long Beach by addressing the public health and human service needs ensuring that the conditions affecting the public's health afford a healthy environment in which to live, work and play.

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Emergency Regulations Adopted For The Reporting Of Bioterrorist Diseases

The California Department of Health Services has amended the California Code of Regulations (Title 17) concerning reportable diseases and conditions to assist state and local government in responding to the growing threat of anti-U.S. bioterroristic acts from such sources as hostile nations, international terrorist organizations, and domestic antigovernment militia or cult groups.



The amendments were developed for urgent implementation to preserve the public health and safety by identifying and containing the spread of disease from selected bioterrorist agents, as well as treating those suspected of exposure.

Background: The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in consultation with bioterrorism experts has identified 7 disease agents/conditions that merit intensive surveillance and rapid reporting. These are the agents of **anthrax, botulism, brucellosis, plague, smallpox, tularemia, and viral hemorrhagic fevers**. These agents are the most likely to be used because of their devastating physical and psychological effects, and their ability to be weaponized and effectively delivered to a target area. These diseases have the capacity to produce high fatality rates (e.g., inhalation anthrax >70%) and, for some, to also spread from person-to-person (e.g., smallpox). Vaccines are not available against most of these agents. With the exception of smallpox vaccine, none of the other vaccines are very effective. Antibiotics can be effective for the bacterial diseases (anthrax, brucellosis, plague, and tularemia), but treatment must be started soon after onset of illness to be effective (e.g., inhalation anthrax), making early diagnosis and immediate reporting to public health officials critically important in saving lives.

The emergency regulation amendments address the need to make the most serious and likely candidate bioterrorism diseases/conditions/agents more promptly reportable by health care providers, directors of medical laboratories, and local health officers, and to make the regulations effective at once.

Summary of the highlights of these regulations:

Section 2500: Reporting by Health Care Provider

- **Smallpox (variola) and varicella (deaths only)** were added to the list of reportable diseases that health care providers must report.

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HIV/AIDS Information

California AIDS Multilingual Hotline
800-922-AIDS

CDC National HIV/AIDS Hotline
800-243-7889

*The City of Long Beach
AIDS Surveillance Program
also publishes an
HIV/AIDS Monitoring Report
that contains additional data
about AIDS in Long Beach.
For more information, call
(562) 570-4311.*



Emergency Regulations Adopted For The Reporting Of Bioterrorist Diseases

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- The reporting time interval for **brucellosis, tularemia, and any unusual disease** was shortened.
- All five of these diseases must now be reported **immediately by telephone**.
- "Health care providers" includes physicians, veterinarians, nurses, dentists, coroners, and other specified professions.

Section 2505: Reporting by Laboratory

- **Anthrax, botulism, brucellosis, smallpox (variola), tularemia, and viral hemorrhagic fever agents (e.g., Crimean-Congo, Ebola, Lassa, and Marburg viruses)** were added to the laboratory reportable list.
- These six diseases, plus plague (animal or human) were made **reportable to the local health officer within one hour after the laboratory has notified the health care provider** who submitted the clinical specimen for analysis.
- **NOTE:** the amendments now require that **whenever a laboratory receives a specimen for the laboratory diagnosis of suspected human anthrax, botulism, brucellosis, or tularemia**, such laboratory shall communicate **immediately by telephone** with the CDHS' Microbial Diseases Laboratory (510-540-2242) for instructions; similarly, any laboratory receiving specimens for the laboratory diagnosis of **smallpox or viral hemorrhagic fever agents** shall communicate **immediately** by telephone with CDHS' Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (510-307-8575) for instructions.
- "Laboratories" include clinical laboratories, approved public health laboratories, and veterinary laboratories.

Communicable Disease Report

Selected Reportable Diseases for the City of Long Beach

| Disease | January 2002 | January 2001 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| AIDS | 16 | 14 |
| AMEBIASIS | 1 | 0 |
| CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS | 4 | 3 |
| CHLAMYDIAL INFECTIONS | 139 | 160 |
| GIARDIASIS | 4 | 5 |
| GONORRHEA | 50 | 70 |
| H. INFLUENZAE | 0 | 0 |
| HEPATITIS A | 5 | 2 |
| HEPATITIS B, acute | 0 | 0 |
| HEPATITIS C, acute | 0 | 0 |
| MEASLES | 0 | 0 |
| MENINGITIS, viral (aseptic) | 4 | 1 |
| MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS | 0 | 3 |
| NON-GONOCOCCAL URETHRITIS (NGU) | 9 | 8 |
| PERTUSSIS | 0 | 1 |
| RUBELLA | 0 | 0 |
| SALMONELLOSIS | 0 | 1 |
| SHIGELLOSIS | 4 | 1 |
| SYPHILIS, primary and secondary * | 3 | 1 |
| SYPHILIS, EARLY LATENT (<1 year) * | 1 | 0 |
| TUBERCULOSIS | 4 | 2 |

* Numbers provisional until investigation is completed.

Continued on page 3

AIDS Surveillance Program Data

City of Long Beach Data as of January 31, 2002

| 4,056 Total Long Beach City AIDS Cases | | (2,391 deceased - 59% Mortality Rate) |
|---|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 4,047 Adult Cases | | (2,385 deceased - 59% Mortality Rate) |
| 9 Pediatric Cases | | (6 deceased - 67% Mortality Rate) |
| AIDS Cases by Gender | | |
| | # | % |
| Male | 3,810 | 94 |
| Female | 246 | 6 |
| AIDS Cases by Race/Ethnicity | | |
| | # | % |
| White, Not Hispanic | 2,531 | 62 |
| Black, Not Hispanic | 701 | 17 |
| Hispanic | 737 | 18 |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 74 | 2 |
| American Indian/Alaskan | 11 | <1 |
| Unknown | 2 | <1 |
| AIDS Cases by Exposure Category | | |
| | # | % |
| Male-to-Male contact | 3,078 | 76 |
| Intravenous Drug Use | 354 | 9 |
| Male-to-Male Contact and Intravenous Drug Use | 334 | 8 |
| Heterosexual Contact | 189 | 5 |
| Recipient of Blood/Blood Products Transfusion | 24 | <1 |
| Hemophilia/Coagulation Disorder | 13 | <1 |
| Mother at Risk (Perinatal Exposure) | 8 | <1 |
| Risk Not Reported/Other | 55 | <2 |

Emergency Regulations Adopted For The Reporting Of Bioterrorist Diseases

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Amendments or additions made to the Sections dealing with specific diseases and conditions (Sections 2551 Anthrax, 2552 Botulism, 2553 Brucellosis, 2596 Plague, 2614 Smallpox, and 2626 Tularemia, 2638 Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers) addressed patient isolation requirements, clinical laboratory reporting requirements, quarantine requirements for contacts of cases, local health officer reporting requirements, and/or deletion of archaic language.

To report diseases/conditions listed in the California Code of Regulations (Title 17) call the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services Epidemiology Program at (562) 570-4302, Monday through Friday between 8:00AM and 5:00PM or FAX a completed Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) form to (562) 570-4374, ATTN: Epidemiology. For diseases/conditions that require immediate reporting by **telephone after hours and on weekends**, call the City of Long Beach Communication Center at (562) 435-6711 and request to speak with the Communicable Disease Control Officer.

For questions regarding these changes, call the Epidemiology Program at (562) 570-4302. ■

Health Department Contact Information



General Information
(562) 570-4000
www.ci.long-beach.ca.us/health

Alcohol/Drug Rehabilitation
(562) 570-4100

Animal Control Shelter
(562) 570-7387

Early Intervention Program/
HIV Testing/STD Clinic
(562) 570-4315

Environmental Health
(562) 570-4132

Immunizations/Walk-In Clinic
(562) 570-4222

Prenatal Clinic
(562) 570-4217

Senior Center
(562) 570-3531

Tobacco Education Program
(562) 570-8508

WIC Program
(562) 570-4242

The

Public Health Bulletin

is published as a public health service to interested City of Long Beach residents by the Department of Health and Human Services
2525 Grand Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90815
(562) 570-4000
www.ci.long-beach.ca.us/health



To be added or removed from the mailing list, please contact Hanan Obeidi at (562) 570-4382 or email hanan_obeidi@ci.long-beach.ca.us.



This information is available in an alternative format.



Data contained in this publication are considered provisional due to reporting delays.

Attention Health Care Providers

The California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 2500, requires the report of communicable diseases and conditions. To report a case of a communicable disease, contact the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services Epidemiology Program at (562) 570-4302 or by fax at (562) 570-4374.

Reportable Communicable Diseases

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| AIDS | Echinococcosis | Mumps | Swimmer's Itch [] [] FAX |
| Amebiasis [] [] FAX | Ehrlichiosis | Non-Gonococcal Urethritis | Syphilis [] [] FAX |
| Anisakiasis [] [] FAX | Encephalitis [] [] FAX | Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning [] | Tetanus |
| Anthrax [] | Escherichia coli O157:H7 [] | Pelvic Inflammatory Disease | Toxic Shock Syndrome |
| Babesiosis [] [] FAX | Foodborne Disease [] [] FAX † | Pertussis (Whooping Cough) [] [] FAX | Toxoplasmosis |
| Botulism [] | Giardiasis | Plague, Human or Animal [] | Trichinosis [] [] FAX |
| Brucellosis [] | Gonococcal Infections | Poliomyelitis, Paralytic [] [] FAX | Tuberculosis [] [] FAX |
| Campylobacteriosis [] [] FAX | Haemophilus Influenzae [] [] FAX | Psittacosis [] [] FAX | Tularemia [] |
| Chancroid | Hantavirus Infections [] | Q Fever [] [] FAX | Typhoid Fever [] [] FAX (Cases and Carriers) |
| Chlamydial Infections | Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome [] | Rabies, Human or Animal [] | Typhus Fever |
| Cholera [] | Hepatitis, Viral [] [] FAX | Relapsing Fever [] [] FAX | Varicella (Deaths Only) [] |
| Ciguatera Fish Poisoning [] | Kawasaki Syndrome | Reye Syndrome | Vibrio Infections [] [] FAX |
| Coccidioidomycosis | Legionellosis | Rheumatic Fever, Acute | Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers [] |
| Colorado Tick Fever [] [] FAX | Leprosy | Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever | Water-associated Disease [] [] FAX |
| Conjunctivitis, Acute Infectious of the Newborn [] [] FAX | Leptospirosis | Rubella | Yellow Fever [] |
| Cryptosporidiosis [] [] FAX | Listeriosis [] [] FAX | Rubella Syndrome, Congenital | Yersiniosis [] [] FAX |
| Cysticercosis | Lyme Disease | Salmonellosis [] [] FAX | |
| Dengue [] | Lymphocytic Choriomeningitis [] [] FAX | Scombroid Fish Poisoning [] | OCCURRENCE of ANY UNUSUAL DISEASE [] |
| Diarrhea of the Newborn [] (Outbreaks) | Malaria [] [] FAX | Shigellosis [] [] FAX | OUTBREAKS of ANY DISEASE [] |
| Diphtheria [] | Measles [] [] FAX | Smallpox (Variola) [] | Reportable Noncommunicable Diseases/Conditions |
| Domoic Acid Poisoning [] | Meningitis [] [] FAX | Streptococcal Infections [] [] FAX | Alzheimer's Disease |
| | Meningococcal Infections [] | (Outbreaks of Any Type and Individual Cases in Food Handlers and Dairy Workers Only) | Cancer |

[] [] FAX = Report by FAX, telephone, or mail within one (1) working day of identification.

† = Report immediately by telephone when two (2) or more cases or suspected cases of foodborne disease from separate households are suspected to have the same source of illness.

[] = Report immediately by telephone.
All other diseases/conditions should be reported by FAX, telephone, or mail within seven (7) calendar days of identification.